

Amendments to the Specification and Abstract

In the Specification:

Before paragraph [0001] please delete the heading “Description”.

Before paragraph [0002] please insert the following new heading:

BACKGROUND

Please replace paragraph [0002] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0002] ~~Such a method~~ A method for drying laundry is described in German Patent Application DE 22 20 425 A1 for a laundry dryer having a water-cooled condenser. In that method, the drying air is conveyed through the process air duct containing the blower, the heater and the water-cooled condenser, and through the drying chamber. The process air duct is provided with a fresh air supply passageway and an exhaust air discharge passageway. Means for dividing the drying air flow into an exhaust air component and a recirculated air component are provided by dampers disposed in the process air duct, said dampers completely or partially opening or closing the fresh air port and the exhaust air port. In a first drying cycle, in which the laundry is still wet or relatively damp, the drying air is circulated in a closed circuit. In this first drying cycle, the dampers are closed. In the further drying process, after the laundry reaches a predetermined degree of dryness, the laundry dryer can be operated in a mode in which the circuit is partially open. In the process, part of the drying air is returned to the drying chamber as a recirculated air component and part of it is removed from the appliance as an exhaust air component. The residual moisture content in the laundry is evaluated as a process parameter for controlling the dampers. In this drying cycle, the water-cooled condenser remains on, and the dampers partially open to let in fresh air and discharge exhaust air, respectively. When the laundry has reached a higher degree of dryness, the condenser is turned off and the laundry dryer is operated as an air-vented dryer with the fresh air supply passageway and the exhaust air port open.

Before paragraph [0003] please delete the heading "CONFIRMATION COPY".

Before paragraph [0005] please insert the following new heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0005] It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to reduce or prevent laundry damage from occurring if the drying air flow in the drying drum is interrupted and to obtain an improved or optimum drying result.

Before paragraph [0006] please insert the following new paragraphs [0005.1] and [0005.2]:

[0005.1] The present invention provides a method for drying laundry in a laundry dryer having a program control device, a drying chamber and a process air circuit including a fresh air supply passageway and an exhaust air discharge passageway, the process air circuit having disposed therein a heater and a blower for conveying drying air through the drying chamber. The method includes:

providing a flow dividing device in the process air circuit configured to divide, into an exhaust air component and a recirculated air component, a flow of the drying air;

measuring, by a sensor, at least one of a pressure and a pressure profile in an air stream of the process air circuit in an area where the drying air enters the drying chamber;

evaluating the at least one of the pressure and the pressure profile; and

controlling the flow dividing device based on the evaluating so as to reduce or set to zero the recirculated air component and to continue a drying process at a reduced volumetric flow rate of the drying air through the drying chamber.

[0005.2] The present also invention provides a laundry dryer including:

- a program control module;
- a drying chamber;
- a process air circuit including a fresh air supply passageway and an exhaust air discharge passageway;
- a heater disposed in the process air circuit;
- a blower disposed in the process air circuit and configured to convey drying air through the drying chamber;
- a pressure sensor disposed in an area where the drying air enters the drying chamber and configured to measure at least one of a pressure and a pressure profile in the drying chamber; and
- a flow dividing device disposed in the process air circuit and configured to controllably divide a flow of the drying air into an exhaust air component and a recirculated air component, the flow dividing device including a shut-off damper configured to completely or partially close an air path of the recirculated air component based on the measured at least one of a pressure and a pressure profile.

Please delete paragraphs [0006].

Before paragraph [0009] please insert the following new heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Before paragraph [0013] please insert the following new heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0015] FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the design of the laundry dryer, showing the essential details of the present invention, which are described in FIGS. 1 and 2.